

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BANGKO 14436 220821Z
ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EA-12 ISO-00 EB-08 CTME-00 COME-00 ICA-20
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R 220552Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4807

UNCLAS BANGKOK 14436

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ESTC, EFIN, CB
SUBJ: IMPORTATION OF CAMBODIAN ART OBJECTS

REF: A. STATE 120747, B. BANGKOK 13938

1. CERTAIN HISTORICAL FACTS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED IN CONNECTION WITH REFTELS. FROM THE TENTH TO THIRTEENTH CENTURIES A LARGE PART OF PRESENT DAY THAILAND WAS UNDER KHMER RULE AND THE KHMERS LEFT BEHIND THEM IMPORTANT MONUMENTS INCLUDING KILM SITES IN NORTH AND NORTHEAST THAILAND. NEW FINDS ARE MADE FREQUENTLY IN THAILAND AT THE MANY KHMER SITES STILL BEING DISCOVERED AND EXCAVATED.

2. SINCE THE FLOW OF KHMER WORKS CEASED IN 1975, THOSE PIECES AVAILABLE FOR SALE IN BANGKOK COME LARGELY FROM PRIVATE LOCAL COLLECTIONS OF LONG STANDING OR FROM EXCAVATIONS OF KHMER SITES WITHIN THE EXISTING BORDERS OF THAILAND. THUS, THERE IS A GOOD CASE FOR ASSUMING THAT KHMER OBJECTS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE IN BANGKOK ARE SUBSTANTIALLY OF THAI ORIGIN. THEY ARE COMMONLY REFERRED TO IN THAILAND AS THE LOPBURI STYLE COORESPONDING TO THE PERIOD FROM THE TENTH TO THIRTEENTH CENTURY.

WHITEHOUSE
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PAGE 02 BANGKO 14436 220821Z

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 22 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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